

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following to page 1 after the
title:

--Related Application

This application is a continuation of U.S.
Application Serial No. 09/804,261 filed March 13, 2001.--

Please amend the paragraph of the specification
beginning at page 24, line 4 as follows:

--A small block deinterleaver 138 deinterleaves
the robust VSB data. The small block deinterleaver 138
has a relatively low delay time. This deinterleaving
disperses possible burst errors in the robust VSB data at
the output of the soft output twelve way 2/3 rate inner
decoder 132. The normally ordered robust VSB data is
bitwise decoded by an outer decoder 140 which also packs
the robust VSB data into bytes. The ~~amp~~ map information
telling the outer decoder 140 what decoding rate to use
on what data is provided to the outer decoder 140 at an
R_{MAP} Data input. Neither the deinterleaver 52 nor the
interleaver 62 is needed in the robust VSB receiver 130
allowing for lower overall feedback delay to the phase
tracker and/or equalizer. The outer decoded data can be
used, for example, by an enhanced slice predictor 142 to

generate feedback to the phase tracker and/or equalizer.
If desired, the feedback may be gated, or the step size
of the equalizer gradient algorithm adjusted
proportionally to the reliability of the decoded data.--